

WORKERS of the WORLD UNITE THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST

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THE CONTENTED SLAVE.

Come, all ye weary toilers,
And a song I'll sing for you;
Stand firm by rich despoilers,
And keep this thought in view;
That we cannot live without them,
And oh, how sad 'twould be
To enjoy the fruits of our labor
In a land from grafters free!
Then sing—and shout—and vote the group,
And fling—about—great chunks of Liberty,
Yonder stands the master's mansion,
He has one across the sea;
And you slaves keep toiling on.
You have builded every city,
Every ship and every road,
And a palace for the master—
But what of your abode?
Stagger you beneath your burdens,
And the point of Cossacks' sword;
Then work—and save—and serve the mas-
ters well;
Don't shrink—nor rave—nor think of raising
hell.
Yonder lies the Silent City,
Just beside the silent dell;
And you slaves keep toiling on.

—Appeal to Reason.

The Passing Show.

CONDUCTED BY OTIS.

THE A.W.U. Conference has censured the Federal Government for sending "a contingent of 18 members" to the coronation corroboree.

The Hungarian loan of £20,000,000 was over-subscribed to the colossal amount of £583,000,000. German investors applied for £500,000,000.

An item like this explains the need for wars of conquest to secure new markets.

The telegraphists "refuse to tolerate the attitude of the Public Service Commission."

L. S. Dummer writes from Hilltop, Garland: "The reason the workers do not so readily respond to our untiring efforts to direct them to the light is that their 'little tin gods of Labor' have not yet been pushed off their pedestals, and they (the workers) are too busy thinking out excuses for the many short-comings of the said tin gods. . . . The best method of education is to forward THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST to the individuals one wishes to reach. I am convinced that if the paper will not arouse them to class-consciousness nothing will."

General Methuen (whom the Boers captured in the three years' war) has been pleading that the S. African army must be able to free the Imperial garrison to "go anywhere in the empire when required."

Pearce's "defence force" will in time be changed in a way that will make it liable to be ordered to any part of the globe to aid in the murder wars of England at the command of the international capitalists.

Labor-member Minalan, president of the P.L.L., and part proprietor of the speeding-up boot factory, asked the "Labor" conference to cultivate "a due observance of the rights of all classes in the community." Same old middle-class yelp, that the average Labor member would feel it a deadly sin to omit.

A warder has been dismissed over the recent escape from Darlinghurst. Strange, isn't it, that it is always the bottom dog that gets worried. The warders are among the worst sweated and most badly treated of all who do Capitalism's dirty work. And, if some warder will write it up, this paper will print an exposure of things as they are in Mr. Hohman's jail department.

Raymond Tume writes from Petone, N.Z.: "Peter Bowling has been shaking things up here with his teaching of Industrial Unionism, and the plutes, scenting danger, have issued orders to their soiled flunkies to get on the job. The wowers are trying to put the fighting, class-conscious spirit out of unionism, with a view of leaving it impotent to help free the working-class from wage-slavery."

As the outcome of the Labor Party's efforts to wreck their strike, it is stated that the Cockle Creek sulphide workers will secede from Newcastle Labor Council and amalgamate with the A.M.A. at Broken Hill.

The P.S. Commissioner's scheme with reference to the Postal Department staff committee is described by postal workers as simply a sweating scheme.

At the "Labor" conference a country delegate declared that "the remarks of Ministers would lead them to believe that they were still being ruled by the Wade Government." Well, what's the difference?

A week or two ago the gantry boys at Darling Harbor demanded higher wages, better conditions, protection from the wet weather, &c., and enforced the demands by means of the strike. Their terms were conceded, but they found that the lad who was regarded as strike leader had been dismissed; whereupon they again downed tools, and refused to take them up again until their comrade was reinstated. In this they were successful. On Wednesday of last week they again ceased work, and incidentally held up the whole of the wheat traffic, the grievance being that the Railway Commissioners had broken faith with them in the matter of the wages increase. Hundreds of men stood idle; and in due time Tom Johnson was once more forced to see the error of his ways, and the boys got what they wanted. What a practical object lesson for the postal workers in their efforts to bring Sweater-General Josiah up to the mark!

After the Gas Co.'s directors had finished eulogising strike-breakers Beeby and Carmichael, at their recent meeting, they eased off and drew long breaths while "a dividend at the usual rate of 9s per share" (on their watered stock) was declared.

R.C. Bishop Gallagher was talking at a Goulburn function the other day, and he told his hearers:

"No one had ever heard him say one word as to whom any Catholic should vote for, whether the candidate was a Liberal, a Radical, a Conservative, or even a Socialist, although he would hardly go so far as to say he would care to see a man vote for a Socialist."

Just so! Socialism stands for justice, Justice means the ending of class rule, and the need for all men to do useful work. It would be a fearsome calamity if a Bishop should be called upon to do useful work.

J. T. Holt, a trainee from the Mersey, has disappeared. His clothes were found on the beach at Geogee. It is probable that he succeeded to escape from a living hell. In future days Australian boys will find self-inflicted death more inviting than the hell-torture Senator Pearce will provide for them on the vessels of "our Australian navy."

Melbourne wharf-laborers' strike ended in a mass of pitiable wreckage. Apparently certain executive officers, working in with the bosses, managed to smash things up. By 350 to 195 votes, they were ordered to return to work—this was the recommendation of the executive! Mr. Hughes seems to have led the waterside workers of Australia into a position where the only thing they can do on a big scale is an act of organised senility.

"The capitalist owns and the worker is owned. That, and not brains, is the difference between them."

"A French aviator, using an aeroplane, rounded up cattle on a Texas ranch, much to the delight of a crowd of onlooking cow-boys."

If this item should catch the eye of Billy Hughes, he'll be ordering aeroplanes to round up his voting cattle next election.

A par. (from the columns of a daily paper) that just shouts at you:

"At the half-yearly meeting of the Australian Gas Co., Mr. G. J. Cohen, chairman, paid a tribute to Messrs. Beeby and Carmichael, for their work in connection with the strike."

Our Yerranderie correspondent writes: There is trouble here over the paper; some have not been getting it constant through post, and they say they must have it, for when they read it once, they must always read it.

"Dock that man fifty cents," said the kind-hearted boss, as he strolled through the workroom. "What for?" asked the trembling foreman. "What for? I caught him looking at the clock." "But it was after hours." "Suppose it was. He would never have known it if he hadn't been rubbing."—Exchange.

In the Yunnan province of China the heathens are killing off the priests and christians and burning their houses. "The heathen in his blindness" becomes more like his Christian brother every day. It used to be thought that murder and incendiarism was the exclusive weapon of the Christian nations—but the heathen is out to floor that fallacy.

No strikes with the Labor Party in power! And we've had a gas strike, a gantry boys' strike, a smelters' strike at Cockle Creek, a strike at the Vale of Clwydd, a strike of glass bottle workers, and a number of others too numerous to mention.

When the Cockle Creek smelting works employees struck recently, Mr. Beeby fled northward to "settle" the matter. He saw the bosses, got their side of the case, constructed a compromise, and came and told the employees how he'd fix things up for them if they would leave matters in his hands. Despite all Beeby's engineering, which led him to believe the sulphide workers would readily accept his "scheme," they turned him down by a big majority. A further course of engineering by Beeby followed, only to meet with a fate similar to that of the first attempt.

The P.L.L. Conference voted down the Socialist objective, proposed by the Rock-choppers' Union, by an overwhelming majority. Quite right; a party whose economic foundations are built of middle-class interests could not well adopt a working-class objective.

Edward Mylius has been arrested in London and charged with publishing a seditious libel in the *Liberator* concerning the English King. The alleged libel consists of a statement that George, while with the Mediterranean fleet, married a daughter of a Admiral Seymour, and afterwards "foully deserted her to contract a bigamous marriage with his present wife." This assertion was printed by *Reynolds'* fifteen years ago, and reproduced in *Gympie Truth* (then conducted by the present editor of *Q. Worker*) and other papers. Strangely enough, no action was then taken against the papers making the statements, although the libel must have been as much a libel then as now. Bail has been fixed in Mylius's case at £20,000! The defendant is demanding that George shall go into the witness box, and submit himself to cross examination; and many will await with interest George's decision about the matter. As a king, he can, of course, decline to take that course.

New Zealand—"the country without a strike"—has a strike on hand at present. Railway workers employed on McLean's big contract have downed tools to enforce a demand for better conditions. McLean refused to receive a deputation that included the secretary of the Laborers' Union. "I won't see any but my own employees," McLean said. He reckons the slaves are his private property.

Comrade Holliman goes with Jim McGowen to see a barbarous ceremony performed in connection with the crowning of King George; but King Billy of the Barwon hasn't yet placed the order for his court dress.

A later cable announces that King George WILL NOT GO INTO THE WITNESS BOX in the case in which he is prosecuting the publisher of the *Liberator* for seditious libel. In ordinary cases, if a plaintiff declines to submit to cross-examination, it is counted against him as indicating that he has something to hide. But, of course, no one would dare to suggest that King George has anything to hide.

Organic inequalities tend to make the sexes complement each other, and so works for the betterment of man and woman. Each is realised only through a happy union with the other. —Joseph E. Conner.

Mrs. Nolan, of the W.C.T.U., says "the liquor trade is doomed." Not while there's profit to be made out of it by the economic bushrangers whose class Mrs. Nolan belongs to and barracks for, we guess.

Arthur Griffith's "nationalised" brick-works at Wonthaggi will start right off by supplying cheap bricks to the master-builders. Mr. Griffith is determined to rescue the smaller exploiter from the octopus grip of the brick combine. In due time, Mr. Griffith's state-helped friends may themselves grow tentacles and develop into one big, wild-eyed octopus, seven times more powerful than even the brick combine.

The Duke of Connaught won't have to sleep on the Embankment with the other unemployed. They've found him a fancy job as Governor-General of Canada at something more than £10,000 a year—a bigger screw than even a really useful man could earn in these degenerate days of marvellous wealth production and plunder and starvation of the wealth producers.

Charles Gregory Leg-Froms says he's ever so much pleased because the property holders in the tin-pot municipalities voted for his section of the master-class party, and not for that led by Sir James McGowen.

Some one says that it's quite on the cards that Handy Andy Fisher will be the first Australian politician elevated to the peerage. In which case they should make him Lord Scatterbrain. Lower wouldn't object.

When the Sydney gas men went out on strike, the clerks did blackleg work for the Co.

When Melbourne wharf-laborers struck, the clerks made blacklegs of themselves.

This is one of the prices "organised" Labor pays for its craft methods.

Melbourne wharf-laborers struck recently, and while the strike was on Messrs. Hughes and Morris came in for some stiff censure. "We have been sold this time," some one opined. The local secretary, Tucker, pleaded with the wharries to unload a cargo of pineapples to oblige the manager of the A.L.S.N. Co., and the meeting told him to "let the — pineapples rot," whereupon Mr. Tucker declared that the manager and the Owners' Federation had decided "to sit down till you came to your senses." When every other method failed, the owners stated that "the strike originated in the speeches of Revolutionary Socialists who earn their living by wharf labor." A representative of the owners said: "These men have led their fellows into open warfare against the wishes of the executive of the Waterside Workers' Union." The executive officers must be in close touch with the owners!

King George is to be crowned in England next May, and American millionaires are going to pay for the display by attending in state in order to stand in with the namesake of the fellow who caused the American revolution. —*Appeal to Reason*.

Montagu Miller, the "grand old man" of Australian Socialism, writes from Perth, W.A.: "Monty O'Dowd and I are running meetings on the Esplanade, which is the W.A. equivalent of your Domain, and said meetings are growing, and we hope soon to organise a State branch of the movement. We have THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST regularly, and it is a living witness of the old-time truth that 'tyranny is the soil in which the tree of Liberty thrives best. It has made THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST the chief announcer and exponent in Australasia of how Labor may win its way to possession of the world it has created, and which can only be kept existent by the spirit of Labor still breathing into it its genius of recreative power. Keep on! and be assured that your pealing trumpet notes, that quicken the blood in my old veins, will yet rouse to wakefulness and action the giant of production—Labor, who, like Lazareth, is not dead but sleepeth. Vigor to your brain! Courage to your heart! And the same point and power to your pen! is the wish of yours for the Revolution."

To our Contributors.

CONTRIBUTORS TO THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST are reminded that our space is exceedingly limited. The more short articles and crisp and snappy paragraphs will have the best chance of securing publication.

Writers are asked to note that preference will be given to articles dealing with current industrial and political events from a Revolutionary Socialist viewpoint. Articles must not exceed 1000 words. Open Column contributions exceeding 500 words cannot be printed.

Write legibly, on one side of the paper only, and leave good space between the lines.

When posting, leave ends open, and mark "Press Copy Only." A penny stamp will then be sufficient from any part of Australia. Address to "The Editor."

Every contribution must bear the writer's name—not necessarily for publication.

Friends and Members visiting THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST Office are urged to assist in getting business done with expedition. DON'T STAY TO TALK. We're always busy; and the delays we are subjected to in the daytime we have to make up for by working through the night hours.

Committee and General Meetings.

THE following meetings will be held at 274 Pitt-st., Sydney, during the forthcoming week:—
Thursday, 7—S.F.A. Administrative Council.
Thursday, 8—Economic Class.
Monday, 7.30 p.m.—Club Executive.
Monday, 8.30 p.m.—Joint Executives.
Monday, 9.15 p.m.—Party Executive.

A Red Mark

through this paragraph indicates that YOUR SUBSCRIPTION WILL EXPIRE WITH NEXT ISSUE, and must be renewed within ten days from date of this issue if you wish the paper to continue. If your Subscription is not renewed within the time stated, the Executive will take it as an intimation that you wish to have the paper discontinued.

If you take a sword and dror it,
And go run a feller thru,
Gov'ment ain't ter answer for it—
God'll send the bill ter you.
—J. RUSSELL LOWELL.

An Open Letter.

To the Conscript Boys of Australia.

BY H. E. HOLLAND AND W.R.W.

CONSCRIPT BOYS OF AUSTRALIA,—Last week, per medium of the columns of the capitalist papers which have always adopted a bitterly hostile attitude to your class—your fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters—in times of industrial strife, the Minister for Defence, Senator Pearce, addressed a letter to you, in which he called upon "every lad worthy of the name of Australian," to become a trained fighter.

Senator Pearce says: "You and I are partners in a big scheme." He has named it correctly, for it is indeed a "scheme," but you are not of the schemers who originated it.

You are not partners in the "scheme," for you have been dragged into it by force by the real SCHEMERS, who have never told you why you have been dragged in. And Senator Pearce himself is only a partner to the extent of formulating the scheme. He wants YOU to kill and be killed, but he has inserted a special provision in his scheme exempting himself from military service, and also exempting his fellow schemers.

The Minister supposes a case for you. He puts it that if one of you had saved up £10, and thieves got to know where the money was kept, they would very likely break in, and steal it, very likely murder some of your family; and he says that it is the same with your country. BUT THIS IS NOT SO.

If the boys of other countries, whom the Minister slanderously likens to thieves, were left to themselves by the SCHEMERS of those countries, they would remain quite peaceable and honest, and would never think of arming themselves to come out and rob you of your country.

If you were left to yourselves by the schemers of your country, you would never think of arming yourselves to go to those other countries to rob their people; but the schemers here, like those of other countries, drag you in for purposes of their own.

You see, wars are made in this way. In all so-called "civilised" countries the system under which the people produce and distribute the necessities of life—that is, food, clothing, and shelter—as well as the luxuries of life, is what is known as the Capitalist system. Under this system some men work, and some live without work. Those who work constitute about 85 per cent. of the people; those who DON'T work are less than 15 per cent. of the people. Those who don't work are known as the Capitalist Class. They own the land and the machinery and implements and money used to produce the things the people require to sustain life. Because these non-workers own the means of wealth production, it follows that they own the things that are produced by those who work, and that they consequently hold powers of life and death over the workers. You see, they will only allow your fathers and mothers, your brothers and sisters, to work on condition that they (the non-workers) are permitted to retain more than two-thirds of the things produced by the labor of your fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters. When you are old enough to work—if you are not already at work—the same conditions will apply to you. The working-out of this system means, of course, that the non-workers, the capitalists, being unable to use all the things thus taken by economic stealth from your class, and your class being unable to buy them back from the non-workers, great accumulations of wealth take place. The non-workers can only live without labor as long as they can make their capital "reproductive" by bringing it (the stolen, stored-up product of past labor) into application with the living labor of the present. Therefore, as the stolen surplus accumulates in the hands of the exploiters "at home," they find it necessary to look for "foreign markets." Wars of aggression become necessary. EVERY WAR OF AGGRESSION ENG- LAND HAS EVER FOUGHT HAS BEEN A WAR OF PLUNDER—a war to benefit no one but a gang of international thieves. This is true of the Crimea, of the war in Egypt, and of the South African war. Of the latter war you have perhaps a better knowledge than the others. The one and only object of that great crime against Humanity was to get possession of the vast gold wealth of South Africa for the international capitalists—not merely capitalists who were Englishmen, mind you; but capitalists who were Frenchmen, capitalists who were Germans, capitalists who were Israelites hailing from almost every country. Capital is INTERNATIONAL; no racial hatreds are permitted to interfere when the work in hand is that of plundering the working-class. For this end, then, was the British nation made the blood-stained tool of the world's robber class—in this way, as John Burns (a present British Cabinet Minister) put it, was the British army made the janissary of the Jews of Capitalism. In the making of that disastrous war, the SCHEMERS harangued your fathers to go and murder and plunder the Boers, kill the women and children, burn their homes and their crops, and forcibly take the country from them; and to the same end the SCHEMERS wrote wretchedly false letters to the daily papers, just as the self-accused SCHEMER, Senator Pearce, has now written to you a letter that is full of falsehood and reeking with cowardice. The Boers were fought and killed, their women driven from their homes and outraged, their children done to death on the veldt and in the concentration camps; and as soon as the soldiers—drawn from the ranks of the working-class—had achieved that awful success, at the cost of many of their own lives, the SCHEMERS pro-

ceeded to drive the hitherto more highly-paid workers out of the country, and to fill it with Chinese slave-labor. To these Chinese slaves they paid a few shillings a month as against the £1 a day the whites had been previously earning, and there is scarcely a mine in the vicinity of those slave compounds that could not tell a tale of men murdered in cold blood simply because they were slaves. The Boer war is an event that has left the blood-stains of murder on the pages of British and Australian history; it is an event every honest boy in Australia will remember with an eternal blush of shame. The fight was originated by the SCHEMERS in Great Britain, and the SCHEMERS here assisted them. Thousands of the working-men of Great Britain and Australia lost their lives in the carrying out of that SCHEME; and it is because we can see that the same sort of thing is being prepared for you and the boys of other countries that we now write to warn you against this SCHEME that is being engineered by Senator Pearce and other men with criminal purposes or instincts, or both.

The Kings, Kaisers, Mikados, Czars, aristocrats, bishops, capitalists and politicians are the SCHEMERS of all countries. THEY ARE THE REAL THIEVES. They hate and despise the people of their own countries, and ruthlessly plunder them, and live idly on their ill-gotten gains.

The Fusionists, Liberals, and many Laborites are the capitalistic SCHEMERS and thieves of this country, and they hate and despise and rob the workingmen, and "live on the plunder of their toiling lives." They will hate us for telling you these things, but our duty to our class is to warn you, no matter what the consequences may be.

The SCHEMERS of all countries, small in numbers, become wealthy so rapidly that they are constantly intoxicated with the arrogance born of success. They are so successful in taking advantage of their own working people, who do not think for themselves, that they are ever longing for other countries to rob, other peoples to plunder, and wider fields for their disastrous, bloody, and nefarious enterprises. They think they have nothing else to do but to call upon the boys, in the name of their country and patriotism, as Senator Pearce is doing in his letter to you, and that the boys will willingly respond. But we know that you are not responding as willingly as they expected, and that you are being threatened and coerced just as the boys are being coerced in other countries.

It is a diabolical and shocking scheme you have been dragged into. It is a scheme to arm, and drill, and train you to obey your masters mechanically and without thinking, so that they may lead you to another country and show you the armed boys there, and say "Sool 'em, bullies," and you will be forced to obey, and wallow in the blood of your fellow creatures in an attempt to rob them of their homes and countries. Or it may be that the other boys may be brought here from other countries to be "sooled" at you.

Worse still, the day will come in Australia when your fathers, your brothers, the unionists, will be striking against unjust conditions, and you—their sons—will be ordered out to shoot them down—TO SHOOT YOUR OWN FATHERS! Think of it! The day will come when YOU will be on strike, and other boys will be called on to shoot you! This is no idle warning. It has happened in almost every conscript country.

You are told that it is only against thieves that you will ever be called upon to fight. You will not believe those who say so. It is not against

the thieves, but against the honest and peaceable that you will be sent; and IT WILL BE THE REAL THIEVES WHO WILL SEND YOU. It will be for them and at their instance that you will fight, and they will profit by your victories. You will LOSE both by your victories and defeats. And it will be your lives you will lose.

Senator Pearce comes to you—the boys of Australia—with a ready lie on his lips and black prevarications flowing from his pen. He warns you against the THIEVES who might come from other countries to steal your country from you, but he knows that this isn't your country. It belongs to the banks and mortgage companies, the big landholders and factory proprietors who use it to rob you and your class of the things you make by your own labor. Moreover, while Senator Pearce is urging you to learn how to kill working-class men of this and other countries, he is so utterly insincere in his protestations that he is getting ready to go to the forthcoming coronation, where, in the name of Australia he will meet and greet all the titled thieves of England and of the world. He will receive almost his first welcome from the cowardly murderer, Churchill, whose hands are yet red with the blood of those two men killed with the rain of machine gun bullets and fire at Houndsditch. He will grip in fellowship the hands of the representatives of Japan's ruling class—that ruling class that only on Tuesday of last week murdered Dr. Denjiro Kotoku and his wife and ten other Socialists. He will fraternise with the representatives of the ruling class of Spain, guilty of the murder of Francisco Ferrer. He will drink with the representatives of the bloody Czar of all the Russias—that Czar whose record of murder is so appalling that it runs into thousands and tens of thousands. Senator Pearce will conveniently forget that on Bloody Sunday, Jan. 2, 1905, 1,215 working-men and women were killed and 2,790 wounded, by order of the Czar—who will be the guest of King George; that between 1905 and 1909 2,533 were hanged by order of the Czar's courts-martial; that 15,000 men and women of the working-class have been killed and 104,000 wounded by the order of the Czar since the "Constitutional" Manifesto of 1905; that 181,137 working-class men and women were in prison for the crime of working-class propaganda, by order of the Czar, on Feb. 1, 1909; that 74,000 working-class men and women are exiles in Siberia by order of the Czar; that, by order of the Czar, 521 villages in Siberia have been sacked for "sedition," and 260 in the Baltic provinces! Senator Pearce will forget the crimes of the ruling-class of England and Russia and Spain and Japan and other countries; he will call them friends. But he will appeal to YOU (the boys of the working-class of Australia) to learn how to kill the boys of the working-class of those other countries.

Has it not yet occurred to you how very unmanly and cowardly Senator Pearce's conduct is. If it were RIGHT to kill people and to fight and to be dead shots, you would naturally think that the grown men should do that work. But Senator Pearce, cowardlike, first of all exempts himself as a member of Parliament, and also exempts the grown men, and calls on YOU to learn to fight for him and the grown men. DO YOU KNOW WHY? It is because he recognises that the men with matured minds would rebel against conscription; and he hopes that you, whose minds are as yet immature, will be easily drilled into the frame of thought that will make you ready murderers and willing tools for the ruling-class—the real thieves.

Do you know what is before you? Do you realise that you are to be coerced and driven and drilled and sworn at—just like the prisoners in a jail? Do you know that you are to go into camp WITHOUT PAY; that you are to find your own clothes while in camp; that you are to be exposed to the risks of pulmonary and other diseases; and that many of you will die as a result of the camp treatment they will give you; that if you object to being bullied and sworn at while drilling you will be subjected to worse than jail treatment; and that every conceivable and inconceivable indignity will be heaped upon you? Do you know that, in the event of a strike, they may yet order you to blackleg under military rule, and imprison you or even shoot you if you refuse?

If you do not yet realise these things, the truth of them will come home to you in the fullness of all their bitterness after the first of July next. Perhaps you have read the words of one Lieutenant Dakin to the North Sydney lads, who, at a certain public meeting, voiced their opposition to Conscription. "You might as well have your fling now," he frankly told them; "YOU WON'T GET MUCH OF IT LATER ON."

That so many of you should have refused to register is to your credit. But registration is merely a matter of form, REFUSAL TO DRILL, or otherwise is the question that has to be decided, and it is more than probable that a special conference of revolutionary Socialists and other anti-militarist bodies will come to a decision in this respect before July arrives. In the meantime, let us impress this upon you: The Federal Labor Party, scheming in the interests of the exploiting class, is forcing you into the most awful position that a section of the working-class has ever been forced into in any country by their oppressors—such an awful position as will one day involve you in the need to choose between shooting men of your own class—perhaps your own fathers and brothers—or the man who gives you the order to shoot; such a position as will force you to study the method of what in France is called "Sabotage," in order to protect yourselves and your own class from the murderous designs of the ruling-class, in whose interest Senator Pearce speaks.

For these reasons we are writing to you. We are calling upon you to think for yourselves—that you may not be plunged into the horrors of war by those who secretly hate and despise you. We want you to study this question between now and July 1, for we are convinced that when you understand the Socialist position war will become impossible. When you have thought this matter out and have gripped the working-class position, you will have developed a wonderful new and friendly feeling for each other. You will have respect for the boys of other nations whose blood runs red like your own and whose working-class interests are identical with yours, and you will begin to feel that no boy worthy of the name of a working-class Australian will allow himself to be made a trained murderer—not even to meet the wishes of Senator Pearce and the capitalists whose schemes he is. You will join with us in protesting against this "defence" scheme and in defying the recklessness and relentlessness of the schemers who would not hesitate to make rivers of working-class blood flow on Australian soil to further their own wretched ends.

Conscript boys of Australia.—Think well, lest men with the purpose of murder back of their scheming indelibly brand you with the mark of a myriad-handed Cain.

Comrade Jorgensen is the new Press Secretary, and he expects to get things into shape very quickly.



PAUL SINGER

The veteran German Socialist and Member of the Reichstag, whose death is announced per cable this week. Australia sorrows with Germany and all the working-class world for one who was a valiant fighter for human freedom through long years of bitter persecution and repression. "He sleeps well."

The daily press cables report: "There was an impressive demonstration at the funeral of Herr Paul Singer, the deputy-leader of the Socialist Party in the Reichstag, who died on Wednesday. A procession of 50,000, walking five and six abreast, started from the offices of *Forwards*, the Socialist journal, at noon, and the final contingent reached the Friedrichsfeld Cemetery at nightfall. Immense crowds lined the streets. The Socialists and marshals kept perfect order throughout."

At this week's meeting of the International Socialist Party, it was resolved: "That the secretary be instructed to convey to the sulphide workers at Cockle Creek the congratulations of the International Socialist Party for the determined manner in which they have refused to permit strike-breaking politicians to interfere with their strike, also to notify them that the International Socialists will render them whatever assistance is in their power, and that THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST is at their disposal to present their case from a working-class viewpoint whenever the sulphide workers desire it." It was also resolved to ask for particulars concerning the strike.

Mr. F. A. Dunleavy, president, Hawarra miners, says that neither himself nor Mr. Morgan had anything to do with the decision arrived at re the amount of compensation paid to the victims of the Helensburgh cage accident, and that the statement to this effect in our issue of Jan. 28 is entirely inaccurate and misleading. He says the decision to accept the amount agreed to by the Co. was unanimously arrived at by the victims themselves.

SUNDAY EVENING, FEB. 12, at 8 o'clock sharp.

The International Socialist Party, having secured

BORONIA HALL,

Corner of George-st. West and Jones-st., near Harris-st., Sydney, will open same THIS SUNDAY EVENING, with a lecture by

H. E. HOLLAND

ON

"The Labor Conference: Some of its Propositions and Decisions."

Songs, Recitations, Congregational Singing, Silver Coin Collection.

Lectures every Sunday evening at Boronia Hall. Make it known.

J. R. WILSON, Sec.

Propaganda Fixtures.

Sunday.

DOMAIN, 3.—Wilson (chair), Hurst, Mrs. Lynch, Mrs. Harris, Holland, Walsh, Feldhusen.

MARTIN PLACE, 7.15.—Wilson, Hurst, Feldhusen, Rutherford.

GOULBURN STREET, 7.15.—Harris (chair), Feldhusen, Rutherford.

BORONIA HALL, corner of George-st. West and Jones-st., Sydney.—James (chair). H. E. Holland lectures on "The Labor Conference: some of its Propositions and Decisions."

Friday.

DARLINGHURST, 7.—Rutherford (chair), Hurst, Slade, Blumenthal.

Alfred Edden's Inconsistency.

BY LION'S TOOTH.

ABOUT nine years ago a motion was passed by the Colliery Employees' Federation of the Newcastle district to appoint a deputation consisting of representatives of the C.E.F. and the Labor members representing the Northern district in Parliament to interview the Minister for Mines, Mr. Kidd, and urge upon him the necessity of bringing in a bill to amend the "Coal Mines Regulation Act" so as to provide that all cages in which persons descend or ascend the colliery shafts of N.S.W. should be fitted with automatic safety-catches. The deputation was accordingly appointed, and the report of the interview was published in the Newcastle *Herald* as follows:

"Coal Mines Act.—Reforms Asked For.—Deputation to the Minister.—Sydney, Tuesday (April 16, 1902).—A deputation comprising Mr. J. Bower, the president, Mr. M. Charlton, the treasurer, and Mr. J. Curley, the general secretary of the Colliery Employees of the Northern district, accompanied by Messrs. Edden, Estell, and Griffith, M.S.P., waited on Mr. Kidd, the Minister for Mines, this afternoon, to urge the introduction of legislation in a number of matters affecting the coal mining community."

"Mr. Edden . . . said that all the members of the Newcastle district were in sympathy with the subjects to be brought forward. These subjects had been frequently urged in times past, and it was a matter for regret that there should be any necessity for the presence of a deputation in regard to it now."

"Mr. Curley said one of the subjects was the question of the introduction of safety-catches on cages used in mines, and another related to the payment by weight of all mineral gotten. The first subject was brought under the notice of the Minister last year. It was one which had been largely studied in England, and the system was in operation in Tasmania and South Australia. Mr. Hillman, an expert, had been consulted with regard to the feasibility of using safety catches in shafts with wooden guys, and he had reported that the catches could be used in such cases. It was desirable in the interests of the miners that the appliances should be adopted, and if the proprietors were not agreeable to take such a course it would be necessary to introduce legislation to make the system compulsory. With regard to the weighing of all mineral gotten, the miners had understood that the law insisted upon such a method. Unfortunately, however, some mineowners had refused to adopt it, and the men employed at those collieries were sufferers thereby. He alluded to the recent Privy Council appeal in regard to the Dudley case, and said that the miners had not yet been afforded an opportunity of acquainting themselves with the full particulars of the decision. There was a great deal of dissatisfaction in the Newcastle district in connection with the various systems of weighing, and it was desired that legislation should be introduced to provide for payment by weight in the skips at all collieries. If this were done all serious trouble would be obviated, because there had been established another Court which would deal with any other difficulty."

"Mr. Bower endorsed what Mr. Curley had stated, and urged that the necessary amending legislation be introduced as soon as possible."

"Mr. M. Charlton said the introduction of safety catches was compulsory in Western Australia, and, he also believed, in Victoria. There had not been any accident in the Newcastle district owing to the absence of these catches, but there was great liability to serious accident. In dwelling on the subject of weighing, Mr. Charlton spoke of the alteration from the stationary to the shinking screen system, thence to the erection of hauling appliances at considerable distances from the pit's mouth, and the increased proportion of small produced thereby. He pointed out that small was worth from 5s to 6s per ton, and that it was therefore to the interest of the proprietors to get a good percentage of it. Some of the collieries were now weighing in the gross, and he believed with satisfaction to the proprietors and to the men concerned."

"Mr. Estell, M.L.A., said it certainly had been intended that the Act should provide for the weighing of all mineral gotten. The friction between the masters and the men had been caused by that section of the owners who paid by yardage, and thus entered into unhealthy competition with others who paid by weight. He hoped that legislation to provide for a uniform system of weighing would be speedily passed. In regard to the safety catch question he felt sure that if it worked satisfactorily in Western Australia it would work successfully in New South Wales."

"Mr. Griffith urged that the Minister should arrange for the introduction at an early stage of the incoming session of the

proposed amending legislation, as that portion referring to weighing was simply to rectify a mistake in the drafting of the bill introduced by a former Minister. The safety-catch system was introduced into Johannesburg during the brutal regime of Kruger, and it certainly should obtain in New South Wales."

"Mr. Edden said the report of the departmental officers was clearly in favor of the request of the deputation in the matter of payment by weight."

"The Minister for Mines said he would give the representations of the deputation every consideration. He thought that every appliance tending to safeguard life should be introduced in our mines, and if safety-catches were successful in Western Australia they should be introduced here. He would make full inquiry, and if he found the system was a good one he would have legislation framed to provide for it. He thought the miner should be paid for the full amount of his work, and it seemed very absurd to pay men only an eighth of a penny per ton for small coal. He would bring amending legislation before the Cabinet and would endeavor to have a bill submitted as early as possible in the forthcoming session."

On the 1st of September, 1902, a letter was read at the C.E.F. Delegate Board meeting from the Minister for Mines intimating that a conference would shortly be held to discuss the question of safety-catches, and asking the C.E.F. to appoint sixteen representatives to confer with the proprietors. This conference was evidently intended to gain time and finally shunt the movement to compel the callous profit-mongers who own the mines to spend a few pounds in making their cages safe to travel in in the shafts. The C.E.F. fell into the trap. The conference was held, and was reported by the Newcastle *Morning Herald* as follows:

"Safety Catches.—Managers and Miners Confer.—No Decision Arrived At.—A conference between nine managers and the executive officers and Delegate Board of the Colliery Employees Federation, was held at the Technical College on Saturday morning to discuss the question of safety catches on pit cages. Mr. Pittman, Under-Secretary for Mines, presided, and both managers and miners were well represented. Mr. A. A. Atkinson and Mr. W. Humble, inspector of collieries, were also present. The conference having been opened and preliminary business dealt with, the delegates commenced the discussion."

"Mr. Houston (Stockton Lodge) gave a black-board illustration, showing a cage with safety catches attached in a shaft. He described his idea, and was asked a number of questions, to which he replied. A discussion then followed. The general opinion amongst the managers, who, with the exception of Mr. Ross (manager WallSEND Colliery), and Mr. Mathieson (Hetton manager), said very little, was that safety catches were not practicable."

"Mr. Peter Bowling regretted the absence of the Minister for Mines, and said that the miners depended upon the mines office for expert knowledge. The Coal Mines Act contained provisions to safe-guard the lives of men when below ground, and now they (the men) asked that their lives be protected when descending shafts. They had evidence of lives being lost by cage ropes breaking, and it was to guard that danger that the suggestion in regard to safety catches had been made."

"A representative of a firm of patentees produced a model of a cage with safety catches. He explained that there were cages built on the lines of the model, six feet two inches long, working without difficulty in shafts 400 feet deep. He would like to see the cage running in rail guides, backed by, say, 5 x 8 wooden guides. The model provided for 16 grippers touching at the one time. At present, if a rope broke, and men were in the cages, lives were lost, if coal, then property was destroyed. He was aware that some safety catches slipped; that was because of ineffective grippers. The grippers worked as wedges, and when weight was put on the cage it served to tighten the grip. The representative here put the model on the floor, and placing his foot on the floor of the cage, put the whole weight of his body on it. This was done to show that the grippers would not slip, and proving their holding power. The cages had been running for five years in some places, and had not cost £20 in repairs. He said that the weight of the cages was 22cwt. and that they could be made to carry up to six tons."

The chairman, in reply to one of the managers, said it was admitted in text books that safety-catches frequently gripped when not wanted. The main principles of the model before them were very old."

"Mr. Mathieson: Hear, hear. That's correct, Mr. Pittman!"

"There appeared no inclination on the part of the managers to take part in the discussion at this stage."

Mr. P. Bowling said that the managers'

opposition was based on the question of expense. He would point out that it was only necessary to use the safety catches when men were in the cages. When skips were being raised or lowered the catches could be taken taken off. He would admit that proprietors always opposed inventions that were likely to cause expense. He did not expect that the managers would be convinced, but he thought that there was sufficient information to justify further investigations. He would like the Minister to appoint a commission to take evidence on oath, and provision made for a more effective examination of hauling ropes.

"Mr. Mathieson: We have no accidents in this district!

"Mr. Bowling: Are you waiting for one?"

"Mr. Mathieson said there was nothing in safety catches. They were not effective, and colliery proprietors should not be called upon to bear unnecessary expense.

"Mr. M. Charlton, miners' treasurer, thought that the managers should controvert the statement that safety catches could be introduced, as the conference had been convened. If the proprietors' representatives could show that there was no necessity for safety catches, or that they would be ineffective, the matter would end. Because there had been no fatal accidents in Newcastle on account of ropes breaking, it did not follow that there never would be any. The rope broke once at Hetton, when coal was being hauled to the surface. It was possible for it to have happened when men were in the cage.

"Mr. Mathieson: No, it would not!

"Mr. Houston thought that the proprietors might, at least, give a trial to some appliance. They had not met to consider the question of expense, but, if possible, do something to minimise risk of life.

"Mr. A. Ross, manager, Wallsend, said that the proprietors would not take the question of cost into consideration at all. They were as much alive to the miners' safety as any other body of employers. He knew as well as they all did that every step taken from the time a man entered a cage until he left it to go home was accompanied by danger; but he wanted to view this question of safety catches from a practical standpoint. He had just returned from a trip through Great Britain, America, and Canada. He saw all the appliances at the coal mines, and made a study of everything. Each manager and viewer that he met told him that safety catches had been found impracticable in Great Britain. There they found that the best method was to get the best of ropes, pay the best prices, and pay every attention to them. The miners of Great Britain, numbering over 200,000, had not raised the question of safety catches, but admitted that the rope was the thing. In America, where they had the best trained men in mechanics and engineering, they had not proved to the world, nor satisfied themselves or their workmen, that safety catches were practicable. The method shown to the conference was not a thing to minimise danger at all. If anything could be proved he was certain the proprietors would take it up, but nothing had been proved.

"Mr. J. Curley, miners' secretary, said that since Mr. Ross left for England a winding rope had broken at one of the mines in Great Britain and eight men were killed. How many demonstrations of that character were they to wait for before taking action? He was willing to admit that immunity from accidents here was a sign that good ropes were provided, and, he would emphasise it, good inspections were made. But the breaking of a rope at Hetton showed that there was a possibility of danger. In the interests of the lives of many thousands much could be done by enquiry and more by experiment. He quoted from authorities to show that safety catches were used in Great Britain.

"Mr. Kneeshaw, delegate, Pelaw Main, said it was for the owners' representatives to prove that safety-catches were useless or impracticable.

"Mr. Forsyth, manager Dudley, said they were approaching the subject wrongly. If the men were only asking for an enquiry by the Government there was no question for argument. But he thought it should be demonstrated that something should be done.

"Mr. J. Bower, miners' president, suggested that the Minister for Mines might give an opportunity for experiment with some of the patents.

"The chairman said that the department had made inquiries, and had received reports as to conditions all over the world. They had the opinion of the best mining engineer and the report of a Royal Commission held in England. The report referred to showed that opinion was divided as to whether the catches introduced fresh elements of danger.

"Mr. Curley: When was that Commission?

"Mr. Pittman: In 1886. Continuing, the chairman said that the report showed that the safety appliances had at times failed to grip, and the Commission was unable to come to the conclusion that any of the appliances were trustworthy. Until something definite was placed before the Minister it would be unfair to ask mine-

owners to go to expense in altering their arrangements. The Minister had sent to England for a wire-rope testing machine, which would be a great acquisition. It appeared to him that if there was likely to be any advantage from safety-catches it would have been discovered before now.

"One of the miners' delegates said he hoped the views of the chairman were not those of the Minister. He regarded Mr. Pittman as being in sympathy with the mine owners.

"On the motion of Mr. Ross, seconded by Mr. Bower, a vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Pittman. The chairman in responding, repudiated the assertion that he was partial.

"The conference then terminated without decision of any kind."

Of course it was never intended by the proprietors and their friend Pittman that any practical result should follow the deliberations of the Conference. The capitalistic *Herald and Advocate* carefully suppressed the remarks of the last speaker, who denounced the partiality of the chairman, and told the proprietors to their faces that it would not concern them if all the miners were killed so long as the dividends were not reduced. The most detestable features of the conference were, first, the cool effrontery of the chairman ridiculing the practical proof given that there are safety catches which can absolutely be relied upon to act in case of ropes or chains breaking; and, second, the sublime class-unconsciousness of Bower, the miners' present, in seconding a motion to thank the chairman for nothing.

But where does Alfred Edden's inconsistency come in? the impatient Labor Leaguer may exclaim. Have patience, friends, and read on. You believe in the policy of one step at a time! This is the first step in an impeachment of loyal Halfred for treason against the workers in general, and against the coalminers of this State in particular.

After the farcical conference was over, it only remained for Minister Pittman to write the grand finale in the shape of a report, which was duly sent to the general secretary of the Colliery Employees Federation. That precious report gives seven reasons why coalminers should continue for ever and ever to risk their worthless lives on a worn-wire rope twice a day. Seven reasons! This magic number reminds us of the seven wonders of the world; the seven ages of man; the seven planets; and the seven wise men of the ancient world; and if Minister Pittman had illuminated the earth with his intellect in the days of Thales there would have been eight wise men; for this is seriously given in the report as No. 1 reason why the danger of sudden death in the shafts should not be eliminated from the mines of N.S.W.:

"The safety catch is not compulsory, nor is it in general use in either Great Britain or America—the two greatest coal-mining countries in the world."

The profound logic of this is that if two countries can be found in which a small section of the people are not compelled by law to do a certain thing, or in which it is not customary for that small section to do it, then that small section should be permitted to continue doing just as they jolly well pleased to all eternity. In other words, if in Russia and Spain a small section of the people habitually neglect to send their children to school, and if schools are not in general use in those unfortunate countries, that neglect is an unanswerable argument and valid reason why education should not be made compulsory in England or Australia.

Having made this fact as clear as treacle, Mr. Pittman gave as his 5th reason why riding in shafts should not be made as safe as writing biased and illogical reports, that,

"If the request of the C.E.F. was acceded to, the owners of coal mines would be compelled by law to entirely alter their shaft arrangements, and replace their wire-rope or steel guides with wooden ones at great EXPENSE in order to introduce so-called safety catches."

"But what in the name of the most loyal and jingoistic Edden has all this got to do with Halfred?" my Labor friends will ask. Have patience, you enthusiastic dupes! I am giving you something now; you will get the rest as you read on!

Now, this reason of Pittman's is of the same character as the replies which got Ananias and Sapphira into serious trouble. If the reader will read Mr. Hillman's letter again, carefully, it will be seen that that gentleman suggested three ways in which the safety cages could be used; first by backing the guide rails, where they are used,

with 5 x 3 wooden guides; or, second, by simply putting wooden guides in to run in the ends of the cages, and retaining the wire-rope guides, where they are used, for ordinary work; and, third, by leaving the wire-rope guides as they are, and fitting the safety cage with 16 grippers instead of four. It is not true that the owners of coal mines (poor beggars!) would be compelled to entirely alter their shaft arrangements, for, in the case of those who use wire-rope guides, they would only need a cage with 16 grippers, and would leave everything as at present. And those who use steel rail guides would only need to back their rails with wood into which the four catches could bite in case the rope broke. The other alternative is for those who wish to leave rails or ropes as they are, and place wooden runners at the ends of the cages, not for actual ordinary use, but to be ready, when the inevitable breaking of the rope does happen, for the catches to grip. It is unfortunate, too, that Pittman should blurt out the real reason why he and his friends, the poor proprietors, oppose the introduction of the safety catches. Mr. Ross had told the conference, without a self-convicting smile, that "the proprietors would not take the cost into consideration at all!" and then his pal gives the show away by saying that the proposed fact that his friends would have to incur GREAT EXPENSE is a good reason why their slaves should continue to risk their lives unnecessarily twice daily.

"Yes, yes; but what has all this to do with the labor-labelled man who is called the Minister for Mines? How is Halfred, bless his loyal heart, responsible for what the real Minister says?" Remember Job, my deluded friend, and you will be enlightened before Handy Andy and reluctant Jim McGowen return with their titles.

(Concluded in next issue.)

Blacklegging on the Boys.

A Lesson in Organised Scabbery at Sydney Glass Bottle Works.

BY J. R. WILSON.

WITH the Labor Party in political possession in N.S.W., many thought the time had come when strikes and lockouts would be relegated to the past. Labor members, speaking from the *Worker* balcony on the night of their election victory, stated that, under the same and beneficent rule of the Labor Party, industrial squabbles would be settled in such a practical manner that the average man would not know there was such a thing as strained relations between any section of the working-class and the employers.

But, although the Labor Party has only enjoyed the sweets of office for a few months, there has been the same unrest, the same clashing of economic interests, and quite a number of strikes.

The latest strike is that of about 90 boy workers employed in the glass works at Waterloo; and, although the number on strike is not large, and although they are boys instead of men, the strike is a manifestation of the class war, and, as such, is pregnant with meaning from a working-class standpoint.

Paid anything from a £1 to £1 5s per week, the boys decided to ask for an all-round wage of 30s per week, and ceased work with a view of enforcing their demands. The services of the boys cannot be done without, inasmuch as their absence hampers the glass blowers in their work. Thus victory seemed within measurable distance.

The first morning of the strike everything went well, the boys remained firm; shoulder to shoulder, like old warriors upon the industrial battlefield, they stood determined not to budge an inch so far as their demands were concerned; and when the word was passed round that Mr. Neilson, of the Yardsmen's Union, had instructed that no member of the said union was to take the boys' places, their hopes were high, and their hearts beat to the tune of revolt.

Everything appeared in their favor, scab boys from outside there were none, and like all boys, having confidence in one another, they had confidence in the rest of the glass employees, older than themselves—confidence which was later to be rudely shattered.

It must be remembered that in bottle making there is the same division of labor as in other branches of industry, and there being the same division of labor, there is the same sectional organisation; so the

glass employees at Waterloo are organised in three separate unions: Glass and Bottle Makers' Union, Yardsmen's Union, and Firemen's Union; and, this being so, the evils of sectional organisation were once more to be demonstrated, likewise the treachery of union officials, who are more deeply interested in retaining their soft billets than in lifting the conditions under which the union members work.

The secretary of the Sydney Labor Council (that hot-bed of anti-industrial iniquity) was sent for. He came and harangued the boys, and advised them to return to work. Only fifteen were present, the remaining 65 being absent. A vote was taken, and the boys present having succumbed to the evil influence, a return-to-work motion was carried; while Mr. Neilson, secretary of the Yardsmen's Union, who doubtless had been interviewed in the meantime by some friend of Labor, and who had on the morning of the strike given instructions that no member of his union was to do the boys' work, about 5 o'clock the same evening telephoned to the yardsmen the opposite, viz., THEY COULD DO THE WORK REQUIRED BY THE COMPANY, that no harm would be done—in other words, the men were instructed to scab upon their boy mates and fellow wage-slaves. The result was that the following day all the yardsmen with the exception of two did as Mr. Neilson and the Company desired, while the two yardsmen who refused to prostitute their manhood were promptly dismissed.

Eight members of the Glass Employees' Union also refused to do the boys' work, and were called upon by the Company for an explanation, which up till now has not been given by those eight militants. Meanwhile the boys, learning of the number present when the return-to-work motion was carried on Cavanagh's advice, decided upon a second ballot. This time there were from forty to forty-five boys present, the ballot was open, and the result was thirty-seven for strike, the remainder against.

The boys are once more out, with their backs to the wall, and if they are beaten, it will not be through unorganised scabs from outside, but by union men with union books in their pockets, in short by the members of the Yardsmen's Union and Glass Bottlemakers' Union scabbing upon them.

Such is the value from the exploiters' standpoint of sectional unionism.

To the Socialist all this is pregnant with meaning. He does not believe in sectional or craft organisation, because he knows it is impossible to harmonise the interests of exploiter and wage-slave—of master and man. He knows that, while no strike absolutely fails, craft organisation, by the very nature of it, is bound to lead to temporary failure, because in its essentials it breeds disruption, fosters craft prejudices, and prevents the workers from acting unitedly.

The Socialist ideal is "the world for the world's workers"—the control of the means of production, distribution, and exchange by the workers themselves—a goal that can only be reached by the working-class organised industrially on class instead of craft lines, and politically on the lines of Revolutionary Socialism. It means the ending of Capitalism by the locking-out of the Master Class.

The Press Fund.

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Already acknowledged	-	63	12 7
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All communications to be addressed to O. W. Jorgenson, secretary, Press Fund Committee, 274 Pitt-street, Sydney.

Answers to Correspondents.

H.A.B., Mt. Morgan.—Will gladly comply with request.

E.H.K., Brisbane.—Forwarding back numbers missed.

A.L., Adelaide.—Will print verses. Copy referred to not yet received.

SIDNEY PARTRIDGE.—Will use soon as space permits.

E.V.C., Broken Hill.—Writing.

GWALIA FARM.—Clippings received. Thanks.

S.M., Artarmon.—Thanks. Will use.

J.W.K., Piper's Flat.—Thanks. Suggestions attended to and messages delivered.

We are compelled to hold over S.F.A. notes, Adelaide and Broken Hill correspondence, special articles on the postal trouble, an open letter to the churches, and a multiplicity of contributed articles.

ONWARD, FREEMEN.

ONWARD all true freemen,
Marching on to peace,
With the thoughts of Justice
Wars and battles cease;
Like a mighty army
Moves the ancient church.
Brother slaughters brother
In her onward march.

Onward all true freemen
Marching on to peace,
With the thoughts of Justice
Wars and battles cease.

The sword and cross combin'd,
Going on before,
Still desolate mankind
As in ages yore;
The bigot's shout is heard,
Cruel creeds die hard,
Louder rings the watchword—
"Soldiers, march onward."

All free states have perish'd
'Neath the Church's sway,
Thrones and tyrants flourished
In her awful day;
The Church called militant,
Constant still remains,
To slaughter crusaders,
And old slavery's chains.

Onward all good people.
Join no battle throng,
Blend fraternal voices,
In triumphant song;
Tyrants, thrones, must perish,
Warlike Churches fail;
"Gates of hell" can never
'Gainst the Truth prevail.

Onward then all freemen
Marching on to peace,
With the thoughts of Justice
Wars and battles cease.

—J. H. L. ZILLMANN.

International Notes.

Russia.

THE Russian revolution is again raising its head.

Stolypin, and his police, hangmen, black hundreds, tortures and assassins, after their orgy of blood which followed on the splendid revolutionary fight of 1905-6; after having carefully stowed away in the various fortresses and prisons—or banished to terrible exile in Siberia—all whom they considered dangerous; were resting, seemingly satiated, but really awaiting further opportunities for practising their fearsome arts. French and English gold, profusely given, had well buttressed the one-time tottering autocracy, and had further enabled it to suppress in the most blood-thirsty manner the aspirations of the Russian people.

It was the hour of darkness. The reaction triumphed everywhere. All the high-placed bats and vultures, from Nicholas downwards, hovered in the gloom amidst the corpses of their victims. It was as though the blight of hate, oppression and greed had settled for ever upon that unfortunate land.

Then there came a smouldering. Little sparks pierced the darkness here and there. The revolution was not dead—it was only crippled for a time. The class struggle forced its way into the open. The Russian workers began once again to stir.

Since January last year there have been numerous strikes occurring in all parts of Russia. In Moscow the textile workers—young and old, men and women—struck first. The brick-makers followed suit. Then the workers in the sugar and yeast factories went on strike. In July 15,000 textile workers were on strike in Moscow and the surrounding district. Strikes followed in St. Petersburg, in Russian Poland, at Warsaw and Lodz, and many other places.

Just as the grand outburst of revolutionary activity began in 1905 with an epidemic of strikes, so this later strike movement seems the prelude to another huge revolutionary attempt at ridding Russia of the Czarism and all that it entails.

The men of darkness, too, are busying themselves.

The scaffold, the torture-chamber, the rack and knout, stained red with the blood of martyrs, are again performing their deadly work.

It is difficult to conceive of human beings in their right senses committing all the horrors that are occurring daily in the prisons of Russia.

From brutally flogging political offenders, the prison officials have taken lately to deliberately beating and kicking them to death. The prisons are overcrowded. It has been computed that they contain no less than one hundred thousand political offenders alone. The officers seem to think it does not matter. If a man is killed all the better—there is more room.

Kill them off quickly, anyhow; by any means; that appears to be the policy of the Czar's officials towards the revolutionists who happen to fall into their hands.

One method is to put them into underground cells. On the slightest provocation they are flung into these cells, which are cold, insanitary, devoid of light and pure air, often in an unclean condition, so that in a

short time the strongest constitutions are undermined, fevers are contracted, and the poor prisoner meets with a most painful death.

The deliberate cutting down of the food is a policy pursued in other places, and thus "undesirable citizens" are starved gradually to death.

Of the many fiendish tortures: beatings with nagaikas and indiarubber sticks, pulling out the hairs one by one, slowly crushing tender parts of the body, inserting pieces of wood underneath the finger and toe nails, whipping with the knout, stretching the body abnormally and then jumping it so that the ribs and internal organs are smashed into a bleeding pulp, such are the choicest.

A couple of weeks ago the Governor of the Zerkent Prison, in the Nertchinsk district, "exercising the authority conferred upon him by law," gave orders for the knout to be administered to two convicts. As a protest against this, three prisoners, including Sasonoff, who threw the bomb that killed M. de Plehve, took large doses of morphia, and three others each opened an artery. Sasonoff succumbed. Nearly all the political prisoners, says the official statement, demanded an amendment of the regulations with regard to corporal punishment, and to force the authorities to comply they decided upon a hunger strike. At about the same time 59 prisoners were knouted in the Vologda Prison. This gives just an example of the desperate lengths to which our poor comrades are forced to go in order to restrain the tyranny that grinds them down.

But now the sparks are becoming flames. The workers are becoming bolder and bolder. They are preparing to make even greater sacrifices. From Odessa, from Moscow, from St. Petersburg, from other towns, come news of conflicts with the police, demonstrations of students and workmen and still more strikes.

Three thousand students of the Women's University at Moscow had a demonstration and sang revolutionary songs on December 20.

At Odessa 235 students were arrested after a conflict with the police, in which seven of the latter were wounded, on December 21.

The Prefect of St. Petersburg issued orders on Dec. 21 threatening with severe penalties the fomenters of strikes among students and workmen.

These are symptoms that tell of the coming conflagration.

And thus another scene is unfolding in the long and bloody drama of the struggle for freedom in Russia.

How will it end?

Amidst the snows of Saghalien; in the hellish cells of Schlussburg and the old Bourtyrki Prison of Moscow; in the damp dungeons (washed by the icy waters of the Neva) of the Russian Castle d'Iff—the fortress of Peter and Paul—in the fever-stricken prisons of Sevastopol, Lodz, Warsaw, and far-eastern Siberia, are some of the noblest men and women the world has ever seen. Self-sacrifice, devotion, absolute indifference to self, concern for the common good, heroism of the noblest description—all are there.—TOM QUELLEN in *Justice*.

Germany.

The *Muncheur Post* states that in the mining strike at Hausham, in Upper Bavaria, the directors armed the blacklegs with pistols, while the body-guard of the director had sharp swords as well as pistols.

Spain.

Dr. Louis Simarro, professor of psychology at the Madrid University, has published the first volume of a book dealing with the trial of Ferrer. It is full of proofs and arguments connected with this affair, which is destined to overthrow Spain.

Poland.

The Warsaw Socialist paper *Mlot*, organ of the Marxists, has been suppressed by the police. The editor was thrown into prison by order of the Governor-General of Warsaw; the editorial offices were closed and sealed up; and the printing of the paper forbidden. All this is contrary to the Press Law, and was carried out in a perfectly arbitrary manner.

Great Britain.

The printers' lockout in England affects the Typographical Association of Manchester, with a membership of 22,000, the Scottish Association (4600), and several small unions.

British Columbia.

The execution by the Japanese Government of Dr. Kotoku has caused great indignation in Socialist circles in Canada.

Mr. Hawthorthwaite, Socialist member of the British Columbian Parliament, has given notice of a motion in the following terms:

"In view of the fact that Japan has inflicted the death penalty on certain Socialist working-men in an endeavor to delay the advance of human freedom, this House condemns the ruling-powers in Japan and regrets that Great Britain should ally herself for any purpose with a Government capable of such unspeakable barbarity."

Capitalism's Trail of Blood.

For if blood be the price of all your wealth,
Good God! we have paid it in full!

C. LOCKYEAR, carter, had his leg broken twice through a cartload of stone crushing him at Kogarah.

Walter McKenzie, laborer, was killed by a fall of earth in a brick pit at Gore Hill.

James Shree, an oiler in the mill at the South Mine, Broken Hill, was dragged into the machinery, the cogs mangling one of his feet, necessitating amputation.

James McGlynn was employed feeding a chaff-cutter near Orange, when his foot slipped into the feedbox, and was drawn through the rollers and under the knives. "Six times the knives sliced off inch lengths of the unfortunate man's foot, which was chopped away to the instep, while the shinbone was badly bruised." The leg was afterwards amputated below the knee.

An explosion of dynamite on a suburban pier in New York killed seven men; seven were fatally injured, and 15 are unaccounted for.

At Parry's factory, Waterloo, Eva Milston (an employee) was badly burnt about the face, arms, and hands, as the result of methylated spirit fumes starting a fire.

Archibald Kennedy, shipwright, fell down a ship's hold at Balmain, and received injuries to his knee and leg.

A young man, named Crossley, employed at a sawmill at Woolgoolga jetty, was drawn into the machinery, and was frightfully gashed on the chest, and also seriously injured about the head.

A locomotive overturned at the Opori saw-mills, Nydia Bay (N.Z.), three men being killed.

John McGlynn had a foot cut off whilst working on a chaff-cutter at Blayney.

Samuel E. Rowe, engine-driver, was killed, and fireman Coffey injured, in a railway accident near Hergott, S.A.

Hunger riots have occurred at Pescaglia, Italy, in consequence of the taxes on food-stuffs. The military attacked the people.

Forwards, the organ of the German-speaking Social-Democrats in Russian-Poland and Lithuania, reappeared on December 1, after an interval of two years, during which it was unable, owing to the violence of the counter-revolution, to publish. It is produced in Lodz.

The tick trouble is worrying the Casino farmers; it is also making McGowen and Co. think. The Casino men want a buffer area established on the Queensland border; but Premier Jim goes to the London uncle direct.

The French Academy of Sciences has by 30 votes to 28 rejected the nomination for membership of Madame Curie, co-discoverer with her husband, the late M. Curie, of radium.

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The import of gold into the Commonwealth during 1910 was £1,031,439, and the export £4,738,147, leaving a net export of £3,706,708.

Something there to think about.

If your next-door neighbor is an anti-Socialist, dynamite him—that is, send him Mental Dynamite. It will cost you 2d.

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BY DORA B. MONTEFIORE.

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A WORTHY German plumber spied
A road to fame in Fatherland,
Where Kaiser Wilhelm, Gott, and Co.
Are standing bravely side by side.

Said he: "These Socialists, so bold,
Whose teachings spread through Fatherland,
Whose numbers grow from year to year,
Are outside Gott and Kaiser's fold."

I'm but a humble plumber bred,
And trained to fight for Fatherland.
For Gott and Kaiser's special foes
The Plate's blood was ever shed.

I may not be intelligent,
But I can see that Fatherland
(In other words that Kaiser Will)
Calls me to be belligerent.

I'll organise, and lead attacks
On Socialists in Fatherland;
Gott and the Kaiser then will see
How in their cause I welcome whacks."

The worthy German plumber scored;
He's in the Upper House for life.
A grateful Gott and Kaiser grinned,
And gave the traitor his reward.

Mac's Soliloquy.

BY LION'S TOOTH.

"HULLO, what's this! An invitation to attend the royal corroboree! Not I. Was I not leader of Ned's Opposition, and am I not now the democratic head of the democratic Labor Government in the most democratic State of the most democratic country in the world? Of course, I am! And shall I accept this invitation to sit in the same cushioned seat with plutocratic lords, dukes, earls, and other social parasites, and lend my plebeian countenance to the imperialistic and barbaric farce of a coronation? Never! I'm plain Mac; and the corns which I made on my diligent hands whilst toiling for the plundering plutocratic crowd are not softened yet. My sympathies are with the down-trodden workers who are legally robbed to keep those pampered drones in luxury and idleness. To accept this invitation would be to disgrace my party, my supporters, and myself!"

*My aim of life is setting in the west;
The southern shades are pointing to the sunset;
Thus for my path with honesty is blessed,
Shall I now write my epitaph, "A Lame?"*

Certainly not! I have been expecting this, for the other Premiers have been invited to witness the imposing ceremony. It is imposing, indeed! As Tom Paine, the deist, said, "a monarch's throne is something about which a lot of secrecy is observed, and a great deal of fuss is made, yet when the spectators peep behind the scenes and see what a hollow fraud it is, they burst into uncontrollable laughter." I suppose the other Labor Premiers will accept the invitation. Well, let 'em. If they have no respect for the sacred name and cause of Labor, I have! Why should I go 1200 miles to witness the crowning of a man whose chief virtue consists in being born lucky? Why should I leave urgent and important work undone to grovel at the feet of the figure-head of British Capitalism? I shall not do it! Kings are common enough; Europe swarms with them. I dare not say this aloud; but my thoughts are my own. I wonder what the people would say if I proposed to pass a law making the premiership a monopoly of the Mac family for ever and ever, and further provided that my favored family the first-born son should be Premier? Why, the people would say at once that I was either insane myself, or that I must think they were! And they would be right. This stupid and unjust custom of allowing one fortunate favored family to have a monopoly of the business of furnishing kings for the nation is a flagrant violation of the principle of equal rights. If the nation really can't sleep o' nights without a king to look after its portable property, why not elect him to the billet? Or, if it is really necessary to have a royal person to lay foundation stones, and open Parliaments, and attend race meetings and theatres and baccarat parties, and give tone to and set the fashions in neckties for the uppercrust of society, and assent to bills passed by Parliament because he dares not say no for fear of losing his job—if we really need a man to do these useless things, why not have the benefit of healthy competition for the billet, by calling for tenders and having it done by contract? That would give us all an equal opportunity. Why should we allow dead men to foist our kings on us? The men who made the lopsided law which provides that one privileged family shall supply our kings, are all dead and gone to—the Summerland. And what monarchs have they given us!

*George the First was reckoned vile—vile George the Second,
And what mortal ever heard any good of George the Third?
When from earth the Fourth descended, Heaven he gained,
The Georges ended.*

And the Georges were gentlemen compared with some of those who ruled and robbed before them. What have these kings done for Britain? Echo answers "Done for Britain!" Ha, ha! not a bad joke, that! What, frinstance, did Bill the Conqueror do. He invaded England in 1066 with all the scum of Europe in his army, and laid waste the people's land, burnt their houses and food, killed their herds, and caused a famine in which one hundred thousand men, women, and children perished. It is the proud boast of every British snob that "his ancestors came over with William the Conqueror." As Morrison Davidson says in his "New Book of Kings," "Ancestors, like other people, may be judged by the company they keep!" And now I am invited to sit and view the coronation with all the titled thieves in Britain, and a host of loyal lickspittles from the four corners of the gory empire. Well, I am not going! Of course I must not be disloyal, or I shall lose the votes of the "best" people at the next election, and I only have a majority of two in the House now. Poor old Ned was a good one; and his successor is, if possible, better. Kings are much better nowadays than they used to be; they have to mind their peas and cucumbers now to keep their soft billets. The people have discovered that it is not safe or wise to let kings and queens rule, so absolute monarchs are gone out of fashion, and kings are kept nowadays principally because they give dignity and assistance to the nobility, confer titles on renegade politicians, and act as semi-divine figureheads on the capitalists' ship of state. All kings are parallelograms—no, paragons of virtue while they live, and are only bad two or three hundred years after they have gone to dwell with Cain, when it is quite safe for historians to write the truth about them! Hence I am not surprised that Handy Andy not only eagerly accepted George's invitation, but went all the way to Africa to bask in the sunshine of the presence of the Duke of Connaught. I wonder what the Labor League chaps would say if I also scampered off to the coronation and left all my precious planks lying about loose where Wade could steal them, instead of nailing them down on the statute book? Shakespeare wrote, "Weary lies the head that wears a crown." That's true! My hat has been getting tighter and tighter ever since I sat in the Premier's chair, and I feel quite weary myself! After all, a long sea voyage would do me good. But I wonder what the Socialists would say on the platform and in their papers if I accept this gracious invitation from my most gracious sovereign? They would most certainly say that if I want a title I should not buy it with the honor and liberties (such as they are) of the people; that jingo imperialism and democratic principles are like oil and water—they won't mix. Yet Fisher has adopted jingo imperialism, and is forever prating about defending "our" empire, and the workers stand his apostasy and treachery. It is, therefore, clear that the workers are still sound asleep, in spite of the Socialists' efforts to awaken them. I am branded "P.L.L." on the pocket, so my disciples will not listen to anything that the disreputable Socialists say against me. Besides, I am a Socialist myself. I am going in the direction of Socialism, but believe in taking one step at a time. I shall take the first step now, and the second after I have joined the small minority in Heaven! I believe, as Henry George said, that "the idea of Socialism is grand and noble; and it is, I am convinced, possible of realisation, but such a state of society cannot be manufactured—it must grow." I am very sympathetic. I give the socialists my blessing and my sympathy—poor fools! My most noble and gracious king is also sympathetic, very! He has such a tender, compassionate heart for human suffering that, when the Welsh colliers were recently on strike against bad conditions, and the men, women and children were starving, he actually sent a gracious telegram sympathetically inquiring how the proprietors' horses were faring! Such tender solicitude for dumb animals which cannot cry (whereas children can cry, even for bread) strikes a responsive chord in my tender heart, and I feel that I am united with George in spirit. I cannot be discourteous to such a sovereign by declining his condescending and gracious invitation. After all, we are subjects of the one great empire of the brave and the free on which the sun never rises, and in which slavery and poverty undeserved are unknown. Of course, there are a few poor people—there always will be—and a few slaves, a paltry 314 millions or so, who groan and sweat under the burden of Capitalism, but they must sweat till I return. Such a comparatively trivial matter as the emancipation of the wage-slaves is not to be compared with the coronation of the most favored member of the most favored family of semi-foreigners in Britain. But I wonder will the labor label cover my title? And will the hobnailed mob stand the same "hasten slowly" patter from Sir James Mac as they do now from plain Jim? In any case, though, I shall be safe, for if I lose the votes of a few wide-awake workers I shall gain more from the pot-hatted, white-vested crew. Moreover, I have squared both sides by my cunning declaration that I shall legislate for all classes, ha, ha! Hobnails

hasn't seen the joke yet; and is too stupid to see that if I legislate to raise his wages I must necessarily thereby reduce the profits of Fat; and, conversely, if I increase the fleecings of Fat I must thereby reduce the wages of Hobnails! . . . Yet, as Shakespeare said, "Herein do I perceive a divided duty!" I should stay at home and perform my duty of destroying the bonds which Capitalism has bound the workers with; and I should also do my duty to the capitalists within my piebald party and those outside of it, by helping to bind the people still more firmly in the bonds of British and Australian capitalism. That reminds me of my favorite hymn: "Rescue the perishing, Duty demands it," etc. "Duty!" thrice blessed word! Like "charity," it covers a puddle full of sins! That magic word "duty" stifles the cry of outraged conscience when a uniformed murderer slays his fellow-man for the glory and profit of his master. Yes, it is my duty to attend the coronation show at the people's expense. The most gracious invitation of my king (bless his holy name!) is really a command to do my DUTY.

*Someone what may,
I must obey
This call of royal George's,
And take my place,
Despite disgrace,
In coronation orgies.*

I must now get measured for my court suit, and tell my tailor to make my pants double at the knees.

Socialist Fables.

"Saving Up."

BY W.R.W.

AN old cockatoo and his wife once lived in a tall tree near a farmer's homestead.

They had reared many young ones, who had all got married and left the old couple to look after themselves in their age.

As they were getting very old, the cockatoo said that he thought it was time to save something for their old age when they could no longer work.

His wife agreed, and they looked round for a convenient place in which to store their savings. After a long search, they discovered a hole in the roof of one of the farmer's barns.

The hole was very small, but they found that they could easily drop grains of corn into it, so they decided that it would be the best place to store their grain.

For some years they toiled to fill up the hole with grain, but the barn never got full, and at last the birds got so old that they could work no more, and not knowing how to get the grain out, which they had put in, they died of starvation.

The farmers' children were very sorry when they found the dead bodies of the birds; they were such old friends, so they decided to hold a grand funeral and give them a decent burial.

After the service was over, and the birds were interred, the children placed a wooden slab at the head of the grave, on which the following epitaph appeared: "Here lies Mr. and Mrs. Cockatoo, who put all their money in in the bank and died of starvation."

The Folly of Optimism.

As they draw near the town, they saw a negro stretched on the ground with only one half of his habit, which was a kind of linen frock, for the poor man had lost his left foot and his right hand.

"Good God," said Candide in Dutch; "what does thou here, friend, in this deplorable condition?"

"I am waiting for my master, Myneer Vanderdyndur, the famous trader," answered the negro.

"Was it Myneer Vanderdyndur that used you in this manner?"

"Yes, sir," said the negro; "it is the custom here. They give a linen garment twice a year, and that is all our covering. When we labor in the sugar works, and the mill happens to snatch off a finger, they instantly chop off our hand; and when we attempt to run away, they cut off a leg. Both these cases happened to me; and it is at this expense that you eat sugar in Europe."

"And yet when my mother sold me for ten patacons on the coast of Guinea, she said to me, 'My dear child, bless our fetishes; adore them forever; they will make thee live happy; thou hast the honor to be a slave to our lords the whites, by which thou wilt make the fortune of us thy parents.'"

"Alas! I know not whether I have made their fortunes, but they have not made

mine. Dogs, monkeys, and parrots are a thousand times less wretched than I."

"The Dutch fetishes who converted me tell me every Sunday that the blacks and whites are all children of one father, whom they call Adam. As for me, I don't understand anything of genealogies; but if what these preachers say is true, we are all second cousins; and you must allow that it is impossible to be worse treated by our relations than we are."

"O Pangloss," cried out Candide, "such horrid doings never entered thy imagination! Here is an end of the matter. I find myself, after all, obliged to renounce thy optimism." "Optimism," said Cacambo, "what is that?" "Alas!" replied Candide, "it is the obstinacy of maintaining that everything is best when it is worst."—VOLTAIRE.

The Federal Public Service Commissioner says he "does not think any good purpose would be served by entering into details in answer to the statements made by postal officers." He also complains that "the officers had made their statements in the freest possible way, too free, in fact, from a disciplinary point of view." "The Royal Commission . . . could find no justification for conceding the demands made."

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To sanguine crusaders,
And old slavery's chains.

regulations with regard to corporal
ment, and to force the authorities to

No. 53

The Confiscation of Life and Property.

(From "The Economist,"
London, July 31st. 1915.)

We said at the beginning of the war that a conflict between the armed forces of States means the confiscation of life, labour, and property. That has been going on all the time. You cannot take more from a man than his life; but you may be content to take property by degrees and to enlist labour, whether for military service or for the armament industries, by voluntary means. But if the idea of compulsion is applied, as certain Ministers and politicians openly desire, to labour, let them pause.

CONFISCATION APPLIED.

If the working classes find their labour confiscated at the demand of Lord Northcliffe (owner of many British newspapers), they may, and probably will, exert all their power against property. There are signs of this spirit already, and we recommend a few paragraphs which appeared in last week's "London Opinion" beneath the well-known signature of Mr. James Douglas to the perusal of cool-headed business men:—

INEQUALITY OF SACRIFICE.

"The whole wealth of the nation ought to be put into the national war chest. We are all in this war, and we all ought to put in our all, share and share alike.

When I see fine young soldiers in hospital blue, hobbling about on one leg, I am tempted to calculate the money value of a leg. What would you take to allow a surgeon to cut off your leg? Would you take a thousand pounds? Would you take a hundred thousand pounds? Speaking for myself, all the money in the world would not tempt me to give up an arm or a leg or even an eye. These soldiers did not sell their leg or their arm or their eye. They gave them freely to their country. Very well. What right have we to grudge our money? We are keeping our limbs at the expense of those who have lost their limbs."

the surrounding district. Strikes followed
in St. Petersburg in Russian Poland at
ments connected with this affair, w

this State in (Continued in next issue.) present, the ballot was open.

IS MONEY MORE SACRED THAN LIFE?

"How much is a millionaire's leg worth? Let me put it in this way. Suppose the millionaire were told by a surgeon that he could save him from the amputation of his leg by an operation which that surgeon had discovered. Would the millionaire haggle over the surgeon's fee? If the surgeon were to demand half a million, would the millionaire sacrifice his leg? We know he would not! He would pay anything rather than lose his leg! Very well. Rather than run the risk of losing the war the nation has a right to commandeer capital as well as life. It asks one man to give his life and another man to give his money.

When a young man leaves his job and enlists, he does not make a bargain with his country to shed a percentage of his blood or to lose a fraction of his body, or to lay down a portion of his life. He gives all his living capital. He takes his chance of getting any of it back. Is money more sacred than life? Why should the surrender of life be unlimited, and the surrender of money be limited? I know it is never put in this clear and logical way. It is wrapped up in phrases. But we have got down to reality in this war."

Lord Northcliffe and his friends may not see the logic of this. But "the lower orders" will, and they are in a great majority. Even when they had no votes Pitt and the governing classes took care in the struggle with Napoleon not to attempt conscription. They had a shrewd idea that militarism to-day would mean Socialism to-morrow, and Revolution the day after. Let us take care what we are about, and, above all, let Ministers beware of supposing that the daily Press represents private opinion.

AUSTRALIAN FREEDOM LEAGUE.
(IN OPPOSITION TO CONSCRIPTION)

Telephone: Brighton 2325.

Central Office:

Commonwealth Organiser:
THOS. J. MILLER.

"Bide-a-Wee," Lees St. BENTLEIGH,
MELBOURNE.